

REMARKS

In the Claims:

Claims 1-7, 16, 17, and 19-25 remain in this application. Claims 1, 16, and 19 have been amended. Claims 8-15 and 18 have been canceled. New claims 20-25 have been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102(e):

Claims 1-8 and 16-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gallagher et al. (US Pub. 2002/0030297) (hereinafter “Gallagher”).

Gallagher fails to disclose a dielectric layer with a matrix material and a porogen material from the list recited in amended **claims 1 and 16**. These materials on these lists were formerly recited in claims 8 and 18, respectively. The Examiner has mischaracterized paragraph [0027] of Gallagher as disclosing compositions of porogen materials. Gallagher discloses a B-staged matrix composition that includes both a dielectric material and a porogen added to the B-staged dielectric material (Gallagher, paragraphs [0026], [0042]). Paragraph [0027] of Gallagher only discloses materials used in the dielectric material, and does not disclose porogen material. Paragraphs [0028] – [0032] of Gallagher are also only concerned with the dielectric material and not the porogen. Thus, because the Examiner has mischaracterized Gallagher, the rejection should be withdrawn.

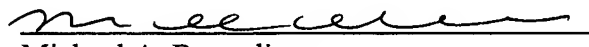
Claims 2-7 and 9 depend from claim 1 and claims 17 and 19 depend from claim 16. Applicants thus request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 2-7, 9, 17, and 19 for the reasons provided above.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3), applicant(s) hereby request and authorize the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to (1) treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for extension of time as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time and (2) charge all required fees, including extension of time fees and fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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